



BOARD OF FINANCE

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

7:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

PRESENT: William Kingston, Chairman, Patricia Smithwick, Eileen Freebairn, Claudia Stephan, Gary Regan and Timothy Draper. **Absent:** J. Philip Gallagher. Also in attendance was Comptroller Robert Kozlowski.

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: William Kingston called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes of April 10, 2012 Regular Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of April 23, 2012 Special Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of April 30, 2012 Special Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Minutes of May 7, 2012 Special Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. William Kingston abstained from the vote.

Minutes of May 24, 2012 Special Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Patricia Smithwick, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Minutes of June 27, 2012 Special Meeting: William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen – Bid Award 13-02 – Award of 26,000 lb Dump Truck with Combination Spreader

Comptroller Robert Kozlowski explained that the original estimate of \$118,000 (approved at the annual town meeting for FY 2011-2012) was not enough to purchase the truck. The Board of Selectmen had recently rebid the truck to see if there was any cost savings but the 2nd bid did not realize any savings. He noted that there were surplus funds in the Highway Department account that could be used in combination with the \$118,000 to cover the additional cost.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to concur with the Board of Selectmen recommendation to purchase the 26,000 lb truck, for the total consideration of \$133,562 to be financed with \$118,000 (short term notes and/or bonds) and \$15,562 from unexpended funds in the Highway Department fiscal year 2011-2012 account. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. A Special Town Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 21st.

Consideration of recommendation from the Board of Selectmen – funding agreement with Musco Lighting – Bethel Baseball Association lighting project at Mitchell Park

Eileen Earle, Director of Parks & Recreation was present at tonight's meeting to explain the request to install lighting at the lower field at Mitchell Park. The Bethel Baseball Association is undertaking a capital improvement project and one of the items is the installation of lights. The Bethel Baseball Association would pay the lease payments over a ten year period. The total cost is \$130,000 with the lease payments being approximately \$17,319.86 per year. Mrs. Earle is working with Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor to prepare a contract. She noted that Bethel Baseball Association would be required to hold at least two years of lease payments in escrow. The lights would be owned by the Town of Bethel as well as any other improvements at Mitchell Park.

William Kingston made a motion, which was seconded by Timothy Draper, to concur with the Board of Selectmen recommendation on the funding agreement/lease with Bethel Baseball Association, Musco Lighting and the Town of Bethel. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. A Special Town Meeting will be required.

Comptroller Report – Consideration of OPEB – preliminary discussion

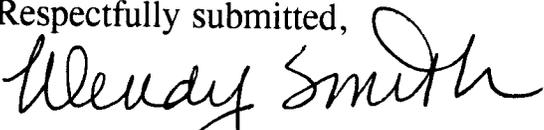
Comptroller Robert Kozlowski and Theresa Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services for the Board of Education spoke about the establishment of an accounting fund for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB). It was noted that there is no requirement at this time to create the accounting for post employment liabilities, however the rating agencies have been inquiring about the establishment of this accounting for several years. It was pointed out that this account would be part of the town's overall accounting in the fund balance and would provide a better accounting for future liability for post employment benefits. Comptroller Robert Kozlowski advised that he was approaching the subject with the Board of Finance to see what the consensus is regarding the implementation of this fund. No formal action was taken.

Consideration of recommendation from Board of Selectmen – Award Bid # 13-01 for Triple Combination Pumper for Stony Hill Fire Department

Comptroller Robert Kozlowski explained that \$650,000 was approved at the Annual Town Meeting for FY 2012-2013. The Bid came in at \$656,414 but the Procurement Committee and the Board of Selectmen approved the payment option of \$632,277 due at contract signing in order to save \$24,137 – interest savings of \$13,830 and chassis discount of \$10,307. The Board of Finance concurred with the Board of Selectmen recommendation.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Patricia Smithwick made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Regan, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:35 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,


Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary